

**Remarks**

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the above amendments and in light of the following remarks and discussion.

Entry of the amendments to the claims is requested, as the amendments place the application in clear condition for allowance. Specifically, each of independent claims 1-3 are amended to overcome the rejections.

Claims 1-4 are pending in the application. Claims 1-3 are amended. Support for the changes to the claims is self-evident from the originally filed disclosure, including the original claims, and therefore no new matter is added.

Initially, it is noted that acknowledgement has not yet been made of the Information Disclosure Statements filed on December 9, 2004, and February 2, 2005. It is requested that the Examiner acknowledge consideration of the references listed on the Lists of References Cited by Applicant included with the Information Disclosure Statements, by including signed, dated, and initialed copies of the Lists with the next Patent Office communication.

In the Office Action claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Japanese Publication No. 05-131696 to Konishi, and Claims 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Konishi in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,225,881 to Goto et al. (Goto). It is requested that the rejection of the claims be withdrawn, and that the claims be allowed, for the following reasons.

The present invention, as recited in independent claim 1, is directed to an inkjet recording apparatus. A controller is configured to control a sheet feeding mechanism to maintain a recording sheet at a location outside of a housing for a predetermined time period. The predetermined time period is long enough to allow ink drops printed on a first side of the sheet to dry before printing on the second side of the sheet.

Konishi is directed to a printer configured for two sided printing, which includes a reversal guide 9 arranged in the body 1 and a single output (ejection rollers 12).<sup>1</sup> It is submitted that Konishi does not disclose or render obvious, however, the claimed features of a controller configured to control a sheet feeding mechanism to maintain a recording sheet at a location outside of a housing for a predetermined time period to allow ink drops printed on a first side of the sheet to dry before printing on a second side of the sheet, as recited in independent claim 1. Rather, Konishi states that the sheet is returned for second side printing without any delay.<sup>2</sup>

Inasmuch as Goto may be relied upon to remedy the deficiencies of Konishi, it is submitted that Goto also does not disclose or render obvious the claimed features of a controller configured to control a sheet feeding mechanism to maintain a recording sheet at a location outside of a housing for a predetermined time period to allow ink drops printed on a first side of the sheet to dry before printing on a second side of the sheet, as recited in independent claim 1.

For the above reasons it submitted that the combination of Konishi and Goto do not disclose or render obvious the claimed features recited in independent claim 1. It is therefore requested that the rejection of the independent claim be withdraw, and that independent claim 1 be allowed.

Independent claims 2 and 3 are allowable for reasons similar to those discussed above with respect to independent claim 1. It is therefore requested that the rejection of the independent claims be withdrawn, and that independent claims 2 and 3 be allowed.

Claim 4 is allowable for the same reasons as independent claim 3 from which it depends, as well as for its own features. It is therefore requested that the rejection of the dependent claim be withdrawn, and that dependent claim 4 be allowed.

---

<sup>1</sup> Konishi, Figure 1.

<sup>2</sup> Konishi, paragraph [0018]

Consequently, for the reasons discussed in detail above, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

Customer Number

**22850**

Tel: (703) 413-3000

Fax: (703) 413 -2220

(OSMMN 06/04)

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



James J. Kulbaski

Attorney of Record

Registration No. 34,648

Philip J. Hoffmann

Registration No. 46,340